

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 135, which accelerates bridge funding for solar energy rebates in California.

Consistent with my commitment to significantly increase the amount of renewable energy consumed in California, I have released an aggressive plan to create 1 million solar systems. This comprehensive plan includes financial incentives to assist homeowners in absorbing the up front costs of installing solar, energy pricing reform to increase incentives for conservation and ensure real time pricing reflects actual costs, commitments to work with allied industries such as homebuilders and building inspectors to seamlessly adopt uniform building codes. The plan builds on existing successful programs at the state and local level to ensure the benefits of solar are available to all Californians.

California's warm and sunny climate makes it one of the best places on earth to use solar energy. Solar energy is generated precisely when and where Californians need it, at peak hours on the buildings that consume it. The on-site, on-demand nature of solar power translates into increased energy system reliability. In addition, every megawatt of energy Californians procure from renewable resources like the sun reduces our dependence on other sources. A diversified energy portfolio is a more secure energy portfolio.

Assembly Bill 135 is the first step on this important journey and will help lead toward energy security, reliability and independence for California. I look forward to working with the California Public Utilities Commission and the legislature to assist in implementing my "Million Solar System Initiative."

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger